THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), at present, is not being implemented in Arunachal Pradesh, Punjab, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep. These States/Union Territories have not opted for the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

(c) NAIS is open to all the States/UTs including those which have not implemented the scheme so far. It is for the States/UTs to exercise their option in favour implementation of the scheme. However, Government of India keeps on persuading non-implementing State/UTs to exercise their option in favour of implementation of NAIS as early as possible.

(d) NAIS, at present, is being implemented by Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) which was set up on the initiative of the Government of India in December, 2002. the Company has been promoted by General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC); National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and four Public Sector General Insurance Companies.

Promotion of Horticulture in Assam

1181. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of areas identified in the State of Assam to promote horticulture; and

(b) the details of financial assistance allocated by Government to develop the hortriculture in the State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal" since 2001-02. The state of Assam is also included under the above scheme.

The scheme is being implemented in a Mission mode approach to address all the issues related to development of horticulture in the Assam State.

The year-wise Allocation and Release of funds made during the last three years to the state of Assam for improvement of production and productivity of different horticultural crops are as under:

A. Production and Productivity Improvement of different horticulture crops:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Allocation	Release
2003-04	14.00	14.00
2004-05	14.25	8.71
2005-06	13.00	13.00
2006-07	14.00	6.00 (as on date)
TOTAL	55.25	41.71

B. Establishment of Markets Infrastructure -

Year	Allocation	Release
2003-04	-	-
2004-05	-	-
2005-06	2.17	5.62
2006-07	-	-
TOTAL	2.17	5.62

Mobile storage for containing wastage of foodstuffs

1182. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than Rs. 50,000 crore of agricultural foodstuffs are lost annually in the country;

(b) if so, the strategy Government would like to take in this respect;

(c) whether Government would like to make available mobile storage at every village;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and